

**DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD (DAB) I
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, August 2, 2004

7:00 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th, Wichita, Kansas 67214

Members Present

Vice Mayor Carl Brewer
Gerald Domitrovic
Treatha Brown-Foster
Lori Lawrence
Debra K. Miller
Debby Moore
Sharon Myers*
Steve Roberts
James Thompson
Lois Tully-Gerber
Lavonta Williams

Members Absent

Tandra Price*

Guests

Dorothy Nave, 1802 Looman
Glen Dey, 4515 Greenbriar
Greg Burge, 6912 Croyden Circle
Carl Ligon, 1736 NE Parkway
Rev. Keith Spencer, 2413 N. Bluff
Paula Givens, 1228 N. Mathewson
Saretta Jones, 2621 N. Cameron
Edward Jones, 2621 N. Cameron

***Alternates**

City of Wichita Staff Present

Virdena Gilkey, Neighborhood Assistant
Dave Barber, Planning
Kurt Schroeder, OCI

Order of Business

Call to Order

Pro-tem Debbie Moore called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and welcomed the guests. She asked that those who wished to address the board would please state their name and address and keep their remarks limited to five minutes. Pro-tem Moore then asked if anyone wished to be added to the Public Agenda. No one came forth.

Approval of Minutes

Virdena Gilkey, staff, stated that she had received a phone call from Dr. Glen Dey, who submitted several items for clarifications on Page 3, Agenda Item #5. The corrections are bolded for clarity: 1) Moore inquired if this is the project the board appropriated funds for? *Vice Mayor Brewer responded in the affirmative. Dr. Glen Dey explained how the funding (\$13,700) was reallocated to playground equipment since the Park Department had received a grant for a **trailhead, which addressed the frontage in Grove Park**; and 2) Dorothy Nave, 1802 Looman, said she thought the bike path was to come all the way down to McAdams. **Dr. Dey responded that is not in the plans for the current trail development in the park.** Bonita Gooch, Community Voice, asked how tall would the prairie grass grow? **The prairie grass will be several types and several heights.***

Brown Foster (Moore) made a motion to approve the July 12, 2004 minutes with the submitted corrections. Motion carried (9-0).

Approval of Agenda

Thompson (Lawrence) made a motion to approve the August 2, 2004 DAB I meeting agenda as submitted. Motion carried (9-0).

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled items

No items submitted

2. Off-agenda items

No items submitted

Staff Reports

3. Police Report

Officer Lamar Wallace provided the following information: a) there will be a prostitution sting in the area of Central to 13th Street and Hydraulic to Hillside due to complaints; b) Officer McElrath is working on a 30 day project with the Quik Trip at 13th and Oliver where the officers are clearing the parking lot. Quik Trip is experiencing major financial losses on gas run offs and an overcrowded parking lot. On Friday nights they lose approximately \$1400 per day; c) Club Mecca, 25th & Hillside, is closed. The manager has cut his business ties; d) National Night Out will take place tomorrow night, August 3rd. Lots of police officers will visit neighborhood sites; e) there was a shooting in the 1400 block of Kansas. The victim has been upgraded to stable. There are no suspects; and f) Community Unity Day will take place August 14th, noon to 10:00 p.m. **Virdena Gilkey, staff**, explained the activities of the day: 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. – Neighborhood Resources Fair; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Photo Gallery Exhibit (students from the Photojournalism Class will exhibit their photos); 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Step Show Exhibition; 3:00 – 9:30 p.m. – Carnival Rides; and 8:00 – 9:30 p.m. – Gospel Unity Fest.

Brown Foster asked Debby Moore how the police resolved their noise issue? **Moore** responded that the police was aggressive on noise reduction and used citations as enforcement. Brown Foster stated the noise in her neighborhood is extreme and continues to be a nuisance. **Officer Wallace** inquired if the enforcement was from Community Policing or Traffic? He stated that nationally, noise pollution is the number one issue that brings neighborhoods together. **Myers** remarked that they have a noise all of the time. Neighbors complain about loud music occurring at 2:00 a.m. in the morning. The problem starts at Mainsgate and goes to Governour. **Williams** commented that her association has complained about noise in the area. They contacted their Community Policing Officers about the problem. **Officer Wallace** said that calling 911 is the best response. The department is planning to enforce the ordinance that aggressively addresses noise.

The board received and filed.

Vice Mayor Brewer arrived at 7:25 p.m. He presided over the remainder of the meeting. **Lori Lawrence** left at 7:30 p.m.

4. DR2004-0004: McAdams Neighborhood Rezoning Initiative

Dave Barber, Planning, presented the rezoning initiative for the McAdams Neighborhood via a PowerPoint presentation. He introduced the Neighborhood-Wide Rezoning Committee Members, two of which were present: Paula Givens, McAdams Neighborhood Association and Reverend Keith Spencer, 21st CCNR c/o 9th Street Church of God.

Mr. Barber stated that the target area is located south of 17th Street, west of Hydraulic, north of Murdock / 8th Street and east of Washington. The objective of the initiative is to create a new neighborhood-wide rezoning scheme that better reflects existing uses of property and future land uses. This will be accomplished by: 1) an inventory of existing land uses and zoning; 2) the analyzing and development of a preliminary rezoning scheme; and 3) finalize and approval of the rezoning.

(Dave Barber's response in italics)

Williams inquired about the timeline and projected completion date. *We are hoping to present to the MAPC meeting in October and to the City Council directly after that.*

Domitrovic asked if they would utilize developers who will actually develop the property? *Yes, James Arbertha is the developer and has several properties in the area that he is known for.* **Brown Foster** asked if the Phyllis Wheatley and Dunbar Theater are in the plans to be restored? *Yes. They are community architectural landmarks and we are looking at ways to restore them.* **Roberts** asked what they are doing with the non-conforming issue? *That will be pursued independently.*

Roberts (Brown Foster) made a motion to recommend approval of the final rezoning scheme proposed by the McAdams Neighborhood Rezoning Committee. Motion carried 8-0.

Due to the absence of the speaker for Item #5 at the time of the presentation, the board skipped to Item #6.

Board Agenda

6. Updates, Issues, and Reports

- a) **Vice Mayor Brewer** presented each of the DAB 1 members' certificates of appointment for the 2004-2005 year and thanked each of them in advance for the great work they will do to make District 1 a great community.
- b) **Virdena Gilkey, staff**, gave out handouts on the Citizen's Academy, National Night Out, and the Visioneering meetings. **Vice Mayor Brewer** encouraged the board members to attend the Visioneering sessions and to provide direct input into the direction of the city. The City Council will look at those recommendations for the future development of our city. He asked that they attend at least one of the meetings.

He also encouraged the board members to stop by the National Night Out celebrations in the District.

- c) **Vice Mayor Brewer** reported on the District 1 Coalition Breakfast meeting. He stated that City Manager George Kolb would not be able to attend the breakfast meeting this month. However, he will send representatives to address street and flooding issues. Mr. Kolb is planning to attend the meeting in September.

Brewer also reported that the community reception for the City Manager would be held at the WSU Metroplex for Districts 1 and 2 sometime in the near future.

- d) **Tully-Gerber** reported on the wrap-up of the Fireworks Task Force Report. She commented that they did an excellent job of summarizing and that there was good cooperation between the Wichita Fire Department and the Wichita Police Department. The task force is currently disband.
- e) **Dorothy Nave, 1802 Looman**, reported that the Northeast Millair Neighborhood Association would host their National Night Out at 6:30 p.m.
- f) **Paula Givens, McAdams NA**, reported that they opted for a neighborhood cleanup this year, which would be held on Saturday, August 7th, instead of the National Night Out.
- g) **Vice Mayor Brewer** reported on City Council issues: **1)** the dog leash ordinance will be addressed. The council has received numerous phone calls supporting the establishment of a ban on breed specific dogs; **2)** this has been a rainy season, which has resulted in flooding issues out west in particular. The city is looking at a 20 year plan for the entire city; **3)** mowing is an issue this year due to the rain and the city is looking at alternative plans to address the mowing problem throughout the city. Considering negotiating contracts with neighborhoods and individuals; **4)** Districts 1, 4, 5, and 6 are reviewing the CDBG funds and how they are allocated. Certain groups feel that the city should allocate all of that funding to one particular group this year and give funds to other groups next year.

(Brewer's response is in italics)

Moore commented that, in times past, citizens saw where the funds were allocated. Example: an elderly couple received assistance as well as the Dunbar Theater. Also, funds were used to develop Old Town. *Old Town is a reinvestment area and funds were allocated for business development.* **Williams** asked when does the CDBG process begin? *We begin consideration in September and allocate dollars around the October time frame.*

The board received and filed.

Steve Roberts left at 8:30 p.m.

5. Reintegration of Offenders

Margie Phelps, Kansas Department of Corrections, presented issues associated with the reintegration of offenders returning to Sedgwick County. She explained that there are 1500 to 1800 offenders returning to Sedgwick County each year and more than 250 of those returning are sex offenders. Another 2400 offenders are under supervision in lieu of prison and 1200 are under supervision by KDOC. The proposal is to work with 150 high-risk offenders to reintegrate them back into the community.

(Ms. Phelps response is in italics)

Brown Foster commented that in listening to the City Council presentation, the new members were not buying this presentation. She stated that the presentation was not well presented to the City Council. **Moore** asked how they plan to address communicable diseases? *The report does not get into that, but there is a whole set of protocol that deals*

with that. Kansas contracts for medical in our facility for Hepatitis C, etc. The health center provides sessions on Health Education prior to release. **Miller** asked has the project presented been developed and what stage are we at? Also, what is the financial obligation for these entities and what relationship does this have to the Day Reporting Center? Key issues, such as health, that provide tools needed one year before release is being looked at. The county/city management is addressing issues such as budget, evaluations, etc. For the 150 persons to be served, the cost is approximately \$700,000. This figure is based on what is being done in Shawnee County, which is the model for our program. The difference in this program is that the Day Reporting Center works with those who violate parole and are about to be sent back to prison. This program assists on the front-end, before they get that point. **Tully-Gerber** commented that she works at the Center of Hope and sees a disconnect between prisoners who leave prison and provided services. They are similar to the homeless who need help and housing is something that they must have. So not only are their housing needs not met, their health issues are not addressed as well. There are only two places that qualify for licensing: the Dodge House and Community Residence Housing. One of the recommendations is to review the one size fits all programs. There are more barriers to housing than any other service. Tully-Gerber asked if the advocacy coalition has been involved in this? Yes. The head of the coalition is in this group. We have a sub-committee on housing as well as other areas. **Brown-Foster** commented that there are plenty of resources out there. She asked why is funding needed with all of the available resources? There are resources, but no one to connect them together. The Offender Housing Specialist would be responsible for breaking down the barriers that the inmates would face. There are separate layers, such as, housing, employment, education, etc. This program would allow us to place all of that together to better serve the inmates. **Domitrovic** asked if this program is post-release supervision only and can they still volunteer to be in the program? Yes, they can actually be in the program even though they don't appear on paper. **Thompson** asked if there is a website to see how many offenders have been reintegrated back into the community? The website is <http://www.accesskansas.org/kbi/>. KBI registers sex offenders and that is posted. **Miller** commented that the Alternative Correctional Housing Board said that they are not in favor of disbanding. Miller stated that she is not comfortable with the plan to date and asked if this would come back before the DAB? Someone had the idea, after setting down to discuss this issue, that the CIAU is a better committee. I am not sure if this will come back to the DABs or not. **Kurt Schroeder, OCI**, responded that the task force did not say to disband the board. The board was started because of the housing aspect and now housing is managed. The Alternative Correctional Housing is not wanting to disband.

Dr. Glen Dey, 4515 Greenbriar, asked the following: 1) will offenders be distributed throughout the city?; and 2) if so, will that be part of the recommendation? Wherever they can be, they will. Dr. Dey commented that he is concerned with how the program is laid out. One leg of the organization that has been left out is the neighborhoods. Never count out what the neighborhoods have to go through. The neighborhood associations were included. Representatives addressed two to three neighborhood associations every week to educate and inform the communities of the reintegration program.

After additional discussion the board decided to vote on the recommendations separately. **Vice Mayor Brewer** asked for a show of hands in support of Item #1: the reentry pilot project. Board voted 7-0 in support. **Vice Mayor Brewer** asked for a show of hands for Item #2: disband the Alternative Correctional Housing Board. Board vote 1-6 to oppose the disbanding (**Moore abstained**).

Greg Burge, 6912 Croyden Circle, Comotara HOA, commented that he is interested in the homeless and that he worked eight years in WPD. He suggested that Lynn McBride, Central Prison Ministries, could address the board on this issue.

Myers stated that what they had to say on the issue was very important, but she did not feel that the board was educated enough in this area to make a recommendation on the program.

Unfinished Business

No items submitted

New Business

No items submitted

With no further business, **Domitrovic (Thompson)** made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virdena Gilkey
Neighborhood Assistant